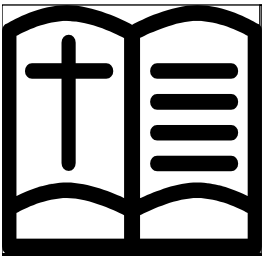


“THE FALL OF BABYLON” Part 4
REVELATION 18:1-8; SUPPORT SCRIPTURE

VII. REALITY CHECK Rev. 18:4

- A. *We are not now in the Tribulation*
- B. *America is not Israel and is not the focus of prophecy*
- C. *Bad things have been prophesied for the whole world and the whole world, including believers, has gone through many devastating and deadly times; that was not the Tribulation and Jesus did not come, nor was He coming*
- D. *Until Jesus does come we have things to do to honor the King*
- E. *We have every reason to be optimistically sober rather than fearfully forfeiting fatalists*
- F. *Historically, believers have followed one of three patterns:*
 - 1. *Become more like the culture in every way, creating a new religion with all the words of Christianity tied to it (with new meanings) using the power of the culture or the state and not the Spirit of God; to mainstream itself into a political/social power; Great loss of faith and identity with Christ, replacing him with tradition Syncretism*
 - 2. *Kicking into neutral, abandoning the structured church except for the big traditions of life i.e. marriage, holidays, death and charitable programs; doctrine is poison Secularism*



3. Separatism - formation of utopian groups to live a more solitary, ascetic life, if alone, or a more communist/socialist life if disappointment with the organized church has been witnessed by a group of people; it often ends as a cult or its own tiny culture relic

G. *Babylon is not the church or even the Roman Catholic church. That is too limiting and time-bound. Babylon is the spirit of worldliness driven by human lust and desire. She has off and on seduced the church leadership and influencers as she had Israel in the promised land, intoxicating them with pride, idolatry, pompous self-righteous ritual, greed, gross immorality and abusive ethnic arrogance*

VIII. THE SEDUCTIVE POWERS OF BABYLON 18:1-8

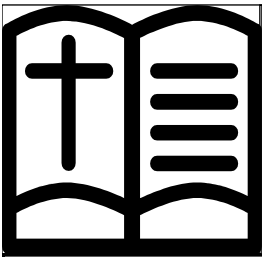
- A. *Babylon's ordained end is announced first; God is going to use the 10 nation alliance to destroy her by using their hatred for her; restraint removal 17:16-17*
- B. *The reason is given: Every nation since the time of her appearance with Nimrod, has drunk the wine of the uncontrolled orgy of passionate desire; not every individual but every nation; the leadership of those nations has entered into a union with her intoxicated by her pressure to have; the merchants (business leaders, commercial enterprises) have used her to fulfill their greed more than they will ever use and used the conquered ones for gain*
- C. *As with Lot, God calls for His people to leave immediately; they are living with her!*



“THE FALL OF BABYLON” Part 4
REVELATION 18:1-8; SUPPORT SCRIPTURE

VII. REALITY CHECK Rev. 18:4

- A. *We are not now in the T*
- B. *A _____ is not Israel and is not the focus of prophecy*
- C. *Bad things have been prophesied for the whole world and the whole world, including believers, has gone through many devastating and deadly times; that was not the Tribulation and Jesus did not come, nor was He coming Matt 24:4-15*
- D. *Until Jesus does come we have things to do to honor the King; keep the gospel pure; community vital*
- E. *We have every reason to be o _____ s _____ rather than fearfully forfeiting fatalists*
- F. *Historically, believers have followed one of three patterns:*
 - 1. *Become more like the culture in every way, creating a new religion with all the words of Christianity tied to it (with new meanings) using the power of the culture or the state and not the Spirit of God; to mainstream itself into a political/social power; Great loss of faith and identity with Christ, replacing him with tradition S _____*
 - 2. *Kicking into neutral, abandoning the structured church except for the big traditions of life i.e. marriage, holidays, death and charitable programs; doctrine is poison S _____*



3. *S* _____ - formation of utopian groups to live a more solitary, ascetic life, if alone, or a more communist/socialist life if disappointment with the organized church has been witnessed by a group of people; it often ends as a *c* _____ or its own tiny *c* _____ relic

G. *Babylon is not the church or even the Roman Catholic church. That is too l _____ and time-bound. Babylon is the spirit of worldliness driven by human lust and desire. She has off and on seduced the church leadership and influencers as she had Israel in the promised land, intoxicating them with pride, idolatry, pompous self-righteous ritual, greed, gross immorality and abusive ethnic arrogance*

VIII. THE SEDUCTIVE POWERS OF BABYLON 18:1-8

- A. *Babylon's ordained end is announced first; God is going to use the 10 nation alliance to destroy her by using their hatred for her; restraint removal 17:16-17*
- B. *The reason is given: Every nation since the time of her appearance with Nimrod, has drunk the wine of the uncontrolled orgy of passionate desire; not every i _____ but every n _____; the leadership of those nations has entered into a union with her intoxicated by her pressure to have; the merchants (business leaders, commercial enterprises) have used her to fulfill their greed more than they will ever use and used the conquered ones for gain*
- C. *As with Lot, God calls for His people to leave immediately; they are living with her!*